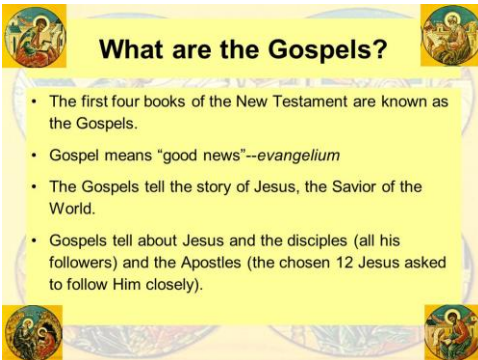


## FORMATION LESSON 5

### THE GOSPELS: CENTRAL SOURCES FOR UNDERSTANDING JESUS

#### Objective:

- To understand the origins and unique nature of the Gospels.
- To ensure that you have the basic skills for working with the Gospels.



**What are the Gospels?**

- The first four books of the New Testament are known as the Gospels.
- Gospel means "good news"--*evangelium*
- The Gospels tell the story of Jesus, the Savior of the World.
- Gospels tell about Jesus and the disciples (all his followers) and the Apostles (the chosen 12 Jesus asked to follow Him closely).

**Gospels** were developed after years of oral storytelling and prayerful reflection by believing Christians. They are not strictly history books but testimonies of faith by believers about the meaning of Jesus life, message, death and resurrection. The Gospels are the Heart of the Scriptures.

Why do we have four Gospels?

Each of the four gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—paint a unique portrait of Jesus. They show us the same Jesus but from different perspectives.

**Having four gospels gives us a deeper, more profound understanding of who Jesus is and what he did.**

Evangelism was Jesus' mission —and we're called to do likewise. **EVANGELISM IS A PRIVILEGE, OUR RESPONSIBILITY.** EVANGELISM SHOWS YOUR GRATITUDE FOR WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR YOU. Jesus made it clear to his disciples that his message must be passed on to future generations. The GOSPELS were one way his followers ensured that the message of Jesus would be preserved.

Presents Jesus as the Coming King of Israel, the Messiah	Presents Jesus as the Servant of the LORD
<b>MATTHEW</b>	<b>MARK</b>
?? Why Four Gospels ??	
Presents Jesus as the perfect, yet dependent, Man.	Presents Jesus as the Son of God
<b>LUKE</b>	<b>JOHN</b>

**The development of the Gospels consisted of three stages:** the first stage being the period of Jesus' life, the second stage being the period of Oral Tradition and the third stage being the period of the Evangelists.



**What are the Synoptic Gospels?**

- The Synoptic Gospels are the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke.
- Their Gospels are very similar and have many of the same stories.
- The word Synoptic means "seeing with the same eye."

The four evangelists faced challenges and hardships as they tried to recount and pass on the story of Jesus. These 4 Gospels are just few of the many that could be written. The Holy Spirit has guided the church to identify and treasure these four accounts as sacred writings to be preserved. The Gospels represent a very special way that God guides the Church and each one of us in the ways of truth.

Reference Guide to the Gospel (Refer to page 28 & 29 of activity book):

**MIRACLES**


A miracle is God doing what only God can do.

*"A miracle is an intervention by God to make something happen that wouldn't normally happen."*

**PARABLES**

**What is a Parable?**

A **parable** is a simple story that tells a message to the audience. Jesus used parables to teach His listeners important truths about Himself, the world, and our spiritual lives.



**SIGNIFICANT TEACHINGS of JESUS**

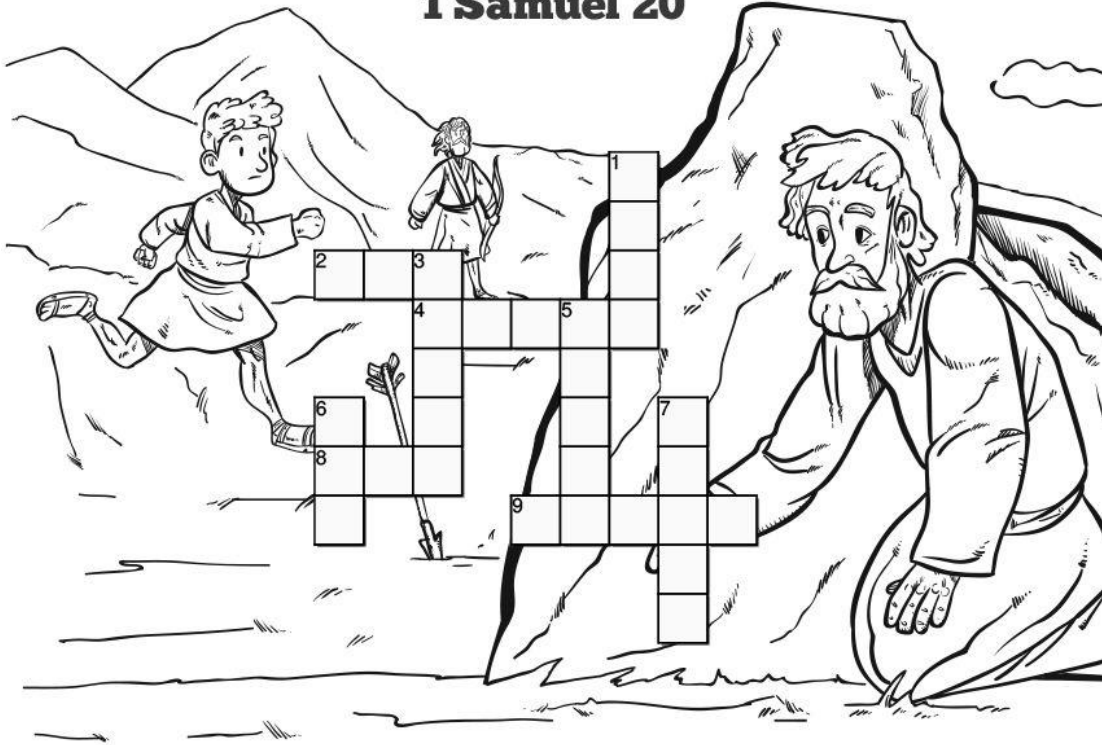
- The Beatitudes
- The Lord's Prayer
- How To Pray
- Forgiveness
- Trust in God, Etc...

**SOME IMPORTANT GOSPEL EVENTS**

- Birth of Jesus
- Baptism of Jesus
- The Transfiguration
- The Crucifixion
- The Resurrection, etc.

# JONATHAN WARNS DAVID

## 1 Samuel 20



### Across

- Jonathan and David trusted in \_\_\_\_\_ to save them from being hurt.
- The king was \_\_\_\_\_ when David was not at the table with him.
- The story of Jonathan and David are found in which testament?
- Jonathan shot \_\_\_\_\_ arrows.

### Down

- Where did Jonathan have the boy take his weapons?
- \_\_\_\_\_ was hiding in the field behind the stone heap.
- David fled from Naioth in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who did Jonathan send to look for the arrows?
- King Saul hurled his \_\_\_\_\_ at Jonathan to hurt him.



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### To Do List For Child:

Activity: Pages 27, 28 and 29  
Read: 1 Samuel Chapter 20

### To Do List For Parents: Please ensure your child learns:

- The Beatitudes
- Makes time to read the Bible daily

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: DAVY & JONNY



#### IN THE CAR:

On the drive home, ask your child what he learned about this week's lesson: Today we learned about David and Jonathan, who were a perfect example of what best friends should be. David and Jonathan put their friendship first, and that's the kind of friend God wants us to be to others.



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real: Ask your kids if they've had any struggles with their friends. Is everything good, or are there things threatening to break up a friendship? Encourage your child to make wise choices, and encourage him to be the kind of friend to others that he wants for himself.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What other choices could Jonathan have made besides being loyal to David?
- Do you think Jonathan would have become king if he'd betrayed David?
- What are some of the things you've seen break up friendships?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

*"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." - Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)*



#### PARENT TIME:

Is there an old friendship in your life that needs mending? Pray for that old friend and reach out to him or her this week. It's never too late, even for parents, to build bridges with old friends.

FRIENDS: DAVY & JONNY